

## NEW JERSEY HIGHWAY AUTHORITY CODE OF ETHICAL STANDARDS

### Purpose

This Code of Ethical Standards is adopted for Commissioners and employees of the New Jersey Highway Authority in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:13D-12, et seq., to provide general guidelines concerning the conduct and activities of the Commissioners and employees of the New Jersey Highway Authority. This Code of Ethical Standards is consistent with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 27:12B-19 which makes it a misdemeanor for any Commissioner or employee of the Authority to be interested, either directly or indirectly, in any contract of another with the Authority or in the sale of any property, either real or personal, to the Authority.

Basic to this Code is the recognition that under our democratic form of government public officials and employees should be drawn from all of our society; that citizens who serve in government cannot and should not be expected to be without any personal interest in the decisions and policies of government; that citizens who are Government officials and employees have a right to private interests of a personal, financial and economic nature; that standards of conduct should separate those conflicts of interest which are unavoidable in a free society from those conflicts of interest which are substantial and material or which bring government into disrepute.

### Definitions

- a) "Authority" shall mean the New Jersey Highway Authority.
- b) "Employee" shall mean any person employed on a temporary or permanent basis by the Authority who receives compensation other than a sum in reimbursement of expenses.
- c) "Commissioner" shall mean any member of the New Jersey Highway Authority appointed in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 27:12B-1, et seq. Commissioners are included in the definition of special State officers as that term is defined in N.J.S.A. 52:13D-13e.
- d) "Person" means any natural person, association or corporation.



- e) "Interest" in a corporation means the ownership or control of more than 10% of the stock of the corporation.
- f) Words in the singular number shall include the plural and words of gender shall mean either masculine or feminine, as appropriate.

### Advisory Opinions

It is not possible to set forth in a Code of Ethics standards applicable to each situation which may arise and which might form the basis of a conflict of interest. In the event that a situation arises in which a Commissioner or employee is uncertain of whether or not a contemplated course of action would result in a violation of the statute of this Code of Ethics, he shall refer the matter to the Chairman of the Authority who shall render an opinion or request an advisory opinion from the Executive Commission on Ethical Standards. Copies of each opinion by the Chairman shall be forwarded to the Executive Commission on Ethical Standards for approval, disapproval, or modification.

### Notice to Commissioners and Employees

Each Commissioner and employee shall be given a copy of the current Code of Ethics and the New Jersey Conflicts of interest Law, COIL, within 30 days after the adoption of this Code of Ethics by the Authority. Thereafter, all Commissioners and employees shall be given copies of the current Code of Ethics and the New Jersey Conflicts of Interest Law, COIL, routinely with their appointment or hiring and within 30 days of any approved change in the Code of Ethics or the COIL.

### Standards of Conduct

In addition to those standards of conduct established by law, the following standards are hereby adopted by the Authority:

1. No Commissioner or employee should have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or engage in any business or transaction or professional activity which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his or her duties in the public interest.
2. No Commissioner or employee should engage in any particular business, profession, trade or occupation which is subject to licensing or regulations by a specific agency of State Government without promptly filing notice of such activity with the Executive Commission on Ethical Standards.



3. No Commissioner or employee should use or attempt to use his official position to secure unwarranted privilege - s or advantages for himself or others.
4. No Commissioner or employee should act in his official capacity in any matter wherein he has a direct or indirect personal financial interest that might reasonably be expected to impair his objectivity or independence of judgment.
5. No Commissioner or employee should undertake any employment or service, whether compensated or not, which might reasonably be expected to impair his objectivity and independence of judgment in the exercise of his official duties.
6. No Commissioner or employee should accept any gift, favor, service, or other thing of value under circumstances from which it might be reasonably inferred: that such gift, service or other-thing of value was given or offered for the purpose of influencing him in the discharge of his official duties.
7. No Commissioner or employee should knowingly act in any way that might reasonably be expected to create an impression or suspicion among the public having knowledge of his acts that he may be engaged in conduct violative of his trust as a Commissioner or employee.
8. Rules of conduct adopted pursuant to these principles should recognize that under our democratic form of government public officials and employees should be drawn from all of our society, that citizens who serve in government cannot and should not be expected to be without any personal interest in the decisions and policies of government; that citizens who are government officials and employees have a right to private interests of a personal, financial and economic nature; that standards of conduct should separate those conflicts of interest which are unavoidable in a free society from those conflicts of interest which are substantial and material, or which bring government into disrepute.
9. Commissioners or employees of the Authority shall absent themselves from Authority actions relating to the solicitation of gifts, grants, program underwriting or other similar actions if such solicitation or transaction involves any company or organization by which they are either employed or in which they hold or control more than 10% of the stock.



10. Commissioners, employees and agents, as that term is defined in N.J.S.A. 27:12B-19, of the Authority shall additionally comply with and are subject to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 27:12B-19.
11. Commissioners and employees shall be further subject to and shall comply with any future amendments of N.J.S.A. 52:13D-23 12(e) which provides general standards for the development of a Code of Ethics for officers and employees of State agencies.

#### General Provisions

Rules of conduct adopted pursuant to these principles should recognize that under our democratic form of government public officials and employees should be drawn from all of our society; that citizens who serve in government cannot and should not be expected to be without any personal interest in the decisions and policies of government; that citizens who are government officials and employees have a right to private interests of a personal, financial and economic nature; that standards of conduct should separate those conflicts of interest which are unavoidable in a free society from those conflicts of interest which are substantial and material, or which bring government into disrepute.

#### Effective Date

This Code of Ethics shall take effect immediately.